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GLS-021

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

BOX: NON-FEE AMENDMENT (PATENTS)

Applicant: VARMA, Rajesh Kumar
Title: REMOVABLE SEAL OF ESSENTIALLY GAS-IMPERMEABLE
THERMOPLASTIC ELASTOMER
Serial No.: 10/074,070
Filed: 12 February 2002
Art Unit No.: 1711 Examiner: Jeffrey C. Mullis
Docket: GLS-021 Confirmation No.: 6677

Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA. 22313-1450

DECLARATION OF RAJESH KUMAR VARMA

I, Rajesh Kumar Varma, a citizen of India and Permanent Resident in the United States of America, residing at 1310 Bonnie Brae Drive, in the City of McHenry, County of McHenry, and State of Illinois, 60050 do hereby solemnly declare:

1. I am a Polymer Engineer having obtained a Master of Science (M.S.) in Polymer Engineering from Akron University in 1997. Earlier, in the year 1996, I was employed by GLS Corporation, in its Thermoplastic Elastomers Division, where I am currently Product Development Manager with primary responsibility for the development and tooling of new products with special focus on food packaging applications.
2. I am the sole inventor in the above-identified patent application which I have recently re-read more carefully than I did when I reviewed it for the scope of the disclosure and the invention claimed.

3. I note that I have inadvertently used the term "polybutene" to identify "polyisobutylene" in the sentence "Commercially available Indopol H-1500, Panalene H-300E and Indopol L-100 polybutenes are essentially copolymers of isobutene and 1-butene having Mn in the range from about 1000 to 5000 which are most preferred, though" because I, like others skilled in this art, use the term "polybutenes" in a familiar sense, meaning "polyisobutylene" probably because many persons skilled in the art do so, and the Aldrich Catalog (1998-'99) refers to "polybutenes" as being molecules of 90% isobutylene and 10% 1-butene. In all cases, the references in the specification are to polyisobutylene.

Further, in Table 2 I did not see that the "0" was missing at the end of the numerals giving the oxygen permeability. As will be seen in Table 1 and Table 3, the numerals are correctly typed, but I missed the typographical error in Table 2. I see that the error has now been corrected in the amendment accompanying this declaration.

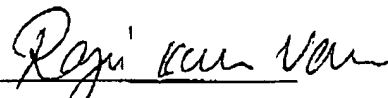
3. I have used the term "mono(lower)olefin" in its well-accepted sense, in that persons skilled in the art know that the term refers to an olefin having from 2 to 4 carbon atoms. Of course, if the specific lower olefins to be used was critical, one would have to specify the range of carbon atoms to satisfy that criticality. However, one skilled in the art knows that it is not economical to produce block copolymers with more than 4 carbon atoms, when the properties contributed to the polymer are not sufficiently better to justify the price. Moreover, one skilled in the art would know that block copolymers of monomers having 5 or more carbon atoms would be ill-suited for the purpose at hand, namely to produce a polymer soft enough to seal the mouth of a container, which has excellent oxygen barrier properties.

4. I have used the term "detackifier" because it is commonly used in the art to refer to materials which have the opposite effect of a "tackifier".

I have used the term "light permeable" to describe transparency in a sense analogous to "oxygen permeable" which connotes permeability of oxygen.

The undersigned declarant declares further that all statements made herein of his own knowledge are true, and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be

true, and further that these statements are made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.



Rajesh Kumar Varma

Date: 1/27/04